

I am writing in regards to the need for local "low power" FM stations versus allotting all frequencies to long-distance translators. Our media has become consolidated without it needing any further help. In the radio media, we are fortunate to have a LOCAL Portland Oregon Catholic station, KBVM-FM. Not only does it provide religious programming, it offers dates and locations of many true "family friendly" activities in our area. Many Protestant friends also listen!

It is a huge contrast to some of the other stations on our dial. A Clear Channel Broadcasting station, 107.5, often plays some music I like. However, I was surprised by some sexually explicit gossip that was relayed about Hollywood celebrities, and quickly changed the channel as the kids were in the car, during after school pick-up. If they are playing music targeted for 30somethings, wouldn't they assume many of us have kids? I tried to call but could not figure out how to reach the disc jockey. Someone explained to me this is one of those national channels and I would never get through. I began to see my friend's point. Never do they discuss local happenings or even the weather, because they have NO IDEA what is happening locally.

We need more opportunities for others of all faiths and backgrounds to build true local stations in their communities and states. Please give THEM the preference over huge national conglomerates. Radio is an essential part of today's "free press" that our country was founded on.